NEW-YORK, SATURDAY, MAY 11, 1878.-WITH SUPPLEMENT.

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## WASHINGTON.

THE HOUSE IN GREAT COMMOTION. TURBULENT DEBATE ON WAR CLAIMS-COLLECTOR WEITZEL'S CASE-GLOVER STUDYING A DEMO-CEATIC FRAUD-FLORIDA, NAVY CONTRACTS,

A long and agitated debate took place in THE ARMY, ETC. he House yesterday, on the subject of Southern war claims; the Sergeant-at-Arms had to be called in to make a member take his seat. Collector Weitzel is coming to Washington to look after the charges against him, and it is reported that he will refuse to resign. Mr. Glover finds that the \$50,000 expended by the Democratic Louisiana Committee, was disbursed, in part, for champagne and similar luxuries. The Senate has voted to repeal the Bankrupt Law. Mr. Willis has reported in favor of the cancellation of \$3,000,000 of naval contracts. The bill to reorganize the army, and reduce t to 20,000 men, has been prepared. It has been decided that a resolution in regard to the Florida elections cannot be presented as a question of privilege.

THE DEBATE ON WAR CLAIMS. THE DEMOCRATS GROWING EXTREMELY SENSITIVE ABOUT CLAIMS.

IEY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] Washington, May 10.—There is no subject on which the Democracy has become so sersitive as upon that of Southern claims. This topic has only to be mentioned in the House to bring half a dozen Democrats to their feet and to start a discussion which generally continues for hours.

This afternoon almost the entire session was spent m the debate of a bill to pay a loyal Virginian for some rails taken and used by the Federal Army during the war. This was undoubtedly a deserving case, the loyalty of the claimant having been conclusively proved, and no nestion being raised as to the honesty of his claim; but the House did not discuss the merits of the bill. The general topic only was debated. There were criminations and recriminations on each side, each party accusing the other of being responsible for the payment of Southern claims, and each party striving to defend its position and make it appear that it alone is the watch-dog of the Treasury.

In the course of the debate reference was made to the William and Mary College Bill, which was carried over to-day, and which Mr. Goode announced it was not his intention to call up again this session; and there was an unprofitable controyersy over the question whether the Republicans had passed a bill for the relief of that institution during the XLIId Congress or not. Some Northern Democrats have been driven to take such radical ground on the question of Southern claims that they announce their determination not to vote for Southern claims of any character. They will not vote, they say, for the payment of the claims of disloyal persons, nor for those of loyal claimants, believing that the majority of the latter are dishonest.

loyal claimants, believing that the majority of the latter are dishonest.

General Harry White during the debate this afterneon worked himself into a fever of excitement over the sufferings of loyal citizens of the South during the war. He is excusable for exhibiting some feeling on this subject, since he knows from experience what the horrors of the Southern prisons were, and the sufferings which refugees, whether prisoners or loyalists, had to endure in their efforts to get within the Federal lines. But even this is no excuse for setting at defiance the rules of the House, as General White did to-day. He became so disorderly, and insisted upon speaking when he had no right to, with so much determination, that the presiding officer was obliged to send the Sergeant-at-Arms to him to induce him to take his seat.

WEITZEL IN NO HURRY TO RESIGN. HE IS COMING ON TO WASHINGTON, POSSIBLY TO FIGHT THE MATTER-CURRENT GOSSIP ABOUT

THE CASE. [BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] WASHINGTON, May 10 .- Collector Weitzel, of Cincinnati, is expected to arrive in Washington to-morrow morning. He will then be offered a last opportunity to resign, and if he does not avail himself of this indulgence his successor will be appointed.

The President said to a Republican Representative to-day, that Collector Weitzel's resignation had been asked for because affairs, in his district were not in a satisfactory condition, and the change contemplated in the office was "for cause." This cause his constituents had requested the President to remove a certain Collector who had been a long time in office, and whose removal they thought would have a good political effect in the district; and they had cited to him the case of Collector Weitzel, who had been asked to resign, although the Secretary of the Treasury had in a letter certified that he was a good officer. When the case was presented in this way to the President, he replied that the cases were not parallel, because the change in the Cincinnati district was for cause. Secretary Sherman himself, a few days before he left for the West, informed a Republican member of the House of Representatives from Ohio that the Treasury Department had discovered whiskey frauds in Cincinnati, and was just ready to move against the detected firms when information was given to these firms that compelled the Department to post-

sioner Raum asked for the removal of Collector Weitzel, and all the facts upon which the proposed change was based theing in substance the same as those already published; were laid before the President and Secretary Sherman. These three gentlemen had a full conference on the subject. It was decided that Secretary Sherman should write for Collector Weitzel's resignation at once.

Some question having arisen as to the correctness of the estimate of loss to the Government by the Cincinnati frauds, which was placed in a dispatch to THE TRIBUNE at a million and a quarter dollars, ommissioner Raum has been asked whether these figures are correct, or whether he has been misunderstood. He replies that these are the estimates as

The reports and correspondence which contain all the facts upon which publications thus far have been based are in the Treasury Department, and will be available if, as Collector Weitzel's friends declare in Cincinnati, he has decided to refuse to tender his resignation, and to take the case before the Senate. All these facts will then be transmitted to the Senate, and the officers of the Treasury Department are confident that they can show that organization of Collector Weitzel's office was found to be such that the revenue was not efficiently collected and the Government encountered difficulty in reaching persons who were defrauding it.

It having been asserted that Collector Weitzel has been asked to resign in order that Mr. Amor Smith might be appointed in accordance with a bargain by which he was to be made Collector in return for the support of Mr. Stanley Matthews for the Senatorship, the latter authorizes the following denial: "This accusation is without least foundation in truth. When the contest for the Senatorship was opening, Henry Kentar, the father-in-law of Mr. Amor Smith, was an advocate of Governor Noyes's election, and continued to support him for Senator until Governor Noves made it known to his friends that he was not a candidate for the place. Mr. Kentar then said to Mr. Matthews that as Governor Noyes had withdrawn from the field, his (Mr. Kentar's) second choice was Mr. Matthews. Nothing ever passed between them in regard to securing Mr. Amer Smith's support in return for office, or in recard to rewarding Mr. Smith on Mr. Kentar's account, or in regard to rewarding Mr. Kentar. The support given by Mr. Smith was of his own accord, and was not in any sense a matter of prearrangement with Mr. Matthews.

and was not in any sense a matter of prearrange-ment with Mr. Matthews. In matter of prearrange-ment with Mr. Matthews. While Scenaro Matthews did recommend that Mr. Smith should be appointed, when, several months see, a change was contemplated, he has not taken say part in the matter since last January. In re-rard to the recent events which have led to the re-tuestfor Collector Weitzel's resignation, he has been

neither consulted nor informed; and if it has been decided to nominate Mr. Smith, Mr. Matthews is without any information in regard to such a de-

MR. WILLIS'S DISCOVERIES.

HIS LONG INVESTIGATION OF THE DEBTS OF THE NAVY, TO WHICH SECRETARY THOMPSON CALLED ATTENTION, ENDED-NOTHING NEW FOUND.

1BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. WASHINGTON, May 10 .- Mr. B. A. Willis, chairnan of the House Committee on Expenditures in the Navy Department, submitted his report of the investigation which his committee has been conducting of the indebtedness of that department to-day.

At the outset we were staggered by the immense sums apparently owing by the several bureaus, to wit. Bareau of Construction and Renairs, \$3,39,798 23; the Bureau of Steam Engineering, \$3,163,915 47; Bureau of Provisions and Clothang, \$473,471 30; the grand total reaching the fearful sum of \$7,083,503 25; and this, too, notwithstanding the chormous appropriations made annually from 1899 to 1876, both melusive, aggregating in amount \$149,157,558 50, with nothing to compensate for the vast outlay save a Navy contemptible even in comparison with those of third and fourth rate powers. We discovered that the major part of the indebteduess was fneurred several years ago on account of work done and material furnished, long since accepted and used by the Government, and payment of which has been reneared impossible, for the reason that the funds in the Treasury to the credit of the various bureaus have been recklessly squandered in what are technically known as open purchases, amounting to millions, very often with-

The committee criticises very severely the system of bookkeeping in the Bureaus of Construction and Repair and Steam Engineering. It was discovered that in cases where bills have actifully been paid, the Government had not been credited with the amounts and appeared by the books to be still in debt. The amount of these payments supposed to be due to certain persons as creditors, but which had actually been paid by the Secretary himself, probably without the knowledge of bureau officers, was \$179,-256 24; and those payments were entirely irregular in method, though justly due to the respective persons who received them. The committee says:

Had not these amounts been scrutinized with care, the creditors, had they been inclined to dishonesty, might have twice received payments of these same, amounting to nearly \$200,000. It is due, however, to say that knowledge of these discrepancies was in the first instance furnished to your committee by several of the

The committee then takes up the several items of indebtedness in order, and states their amount and the facts about the contracts on which they are based. The amount due for timber which the Government is bound to pay is \$416,392 32. The committee condemns without qualification such extensive purchases of timber. There was no pressing exigency, it says, and there was no money to the credit of the bureaus to meet the obligations they involve; but as the persons selling the material were ignorant presumably of the financial condition of the bureaus, the prices were not exorbitant and the timber can be utilized. The committee recommends that the bills be paid. After having eliminated the amounts waich the committee thinks the Government is not bound to pay, the balance still due is estimated at \$3,213,738 76.

Three members of the committee, Messrs, Page, Hubbell and Williams, do not agree with the report of the majority. While they admit that large appropriations have been made, they call attention to the fact that out of them there has been disbursed the annual payment of officers and scamen, amounting to about \$7,500,000 a year; the supplying and housekeeping of the Navy affoat; the annual re-pairs of ships; the maintenance of the navy yards; the rebuilding of fourteen single-turreted ironclads, and the partial rebuilding of five double-turreted ironelads, as well as the rebuilding of six other vessels of live-oak, replacing those utterly rotten. The sum also covers the expenditures for eight new sloops of war and those made necessary by the preparations for an anticipated war with Spain in 1873 and 1875. The principal part of the existing indebtedness of the department is for the rebuilding of five double-turreted ironclads, which, as the minority thinks, was necessary in improving work which Congress ought late the management upon the happy termination to have completed. The minority also defends the of their financial difficulties, and expressed the hope that method in which advertisements for contracts were made, and open purchases of supplies and services allowed. It recommends that the work upon suspended contracts be allowed to proceed, and that appropriations be made to pay for it. The report

oncludes as follows: The exact amount of indebtedness of the Navy Department is \$3,217,738 76. The creation of this inpartment is \$3,217,738 76. The creation of this in-debtedness arose largely from a change of policy by Congress, by which the appropriations for the work of bureaus of the department were greatly reduced, leav-ing work contracted for and necessary to be finished in an incomplete state. There was nothing criminal or improper in the mode this indebtedness arose, and noth-ing in it concealed from Congress.

The majority of the committee submits resolutions covering its recommendations; the one in regard to cancelling contracts providing "That the Secretary of the Navy be and he is hereby instructed to cancel contracts dated March 3, 1877. with Phineas Burgess for the completion of the Monadnock, \$695,000; with William Cramp & Sons, for the completion of the Terror, \$578,000; with Harlan & Hollinsworth for the completion of the Amphitrite, \$578,000 ; with John Roach for the completion of the Puritan, \$1,417.642; also contracts with the South Boston fron Company, dated respectively March 7 and 10, 1877, for the construction of boilers, together amounting to the sum of \$3,600,263 09."

GARFIELD'S NEW RULE.

SUGGESTION PROPOSED TO THE HOUSE WHICH WILL PREVENT HASTE ON LAND GRANT BILLS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]
WASHINGTON, May 10.—The Texas and Pacific people were a good deal excited to-day over an amendment to the rules reported from the Committee on Rules by General Garfield. The nature and effect of this amendment were explained in a dispatch to THE TRIBUNE several days ago. The Texas and Pacific people declare that the amendment which requires Senate bills making appropriations of money, land or property of the United States to be first considered in Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union, will not be adopted. They say that the objection will not be based so much upon the effect of the amendment upon the Texas and Pacific and Northern Pacific Railroad Bills as upon its effect upon other Pacific Railroad Bills as upon its effect upon other measures, upon all other measures making appropriations of any kind. Pensioners and honest claimants, they declare, will be prevented by it from receiving their just dues. The indications are that the whole Texas and Pacific interest will make a united and carnest opposition against the adoption of this amendment, and it is impossible to predict what its fate will be.

NOT A QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE. SPEAKER BANDALL SAYS THE PLORIDA MATTER MUST TAKE THE COURSE OF ORDINARY BUSINESS-A

SIGNIFICANT CONFERENCE. [GENERAL PRESS DISPATCH.] WASHINGTON, May 10 .- The members of the joint Democratic caucus committee, and the Democratic members of thelHouse Judiciary Committee, together with other prominent democratic Representatives. including Messrs. Springer, Finley and Williams, of Michigan, who have had in immediate charge the subject of the alleged Florida Presidential frauds, after consultation with Speaker Randall to-day, re ached the conclusion that an investigation of matters connected with this subject is not a question of privilege, and that therefore nothing can be done except in the regular order of business. Consequently it was determined that the profor an investigation should come position

investigate all the facts in relation to the last election of Member of Congress and of Presidential electors in the State of Florida, with a view to ascertain whether the statements of McLin and others are true; the investigation to be confined to these

points only, without reference to the question of Presidential title.

A dispatch from Baltimore says that several gentlemen from Washington and New-York had a very quiet and private conference at the Mt. Vernon Hotel in that city to-night. Their deliberations, it is supposed were in regard to the action of Congress in the matter of investigating the Florida election frauds. Among those present were Mr. Pelton, private secretary to Mr. Tilden, and a well-known correspondent of a New-York paper.

THE BANKRUPT LAW. A REMARKABLE CHANGE OF SENTIMENT IN THE SENATE OF LATE.

IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. WASHINGTON, May 10 .- The Senate voted again on the bill repealing the Bankrupt Act to-day, and passed it by only 5 majority. The last vote on this subject, which was taken in April, stood 46 in the affirmative and 6 in the negative. This shows a remarkable change of opinion in the Senate during the past month. The bill is to take effect next September. The amendment to make it take effect at once was lost by a vote of 22 to 24.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

Washington, Friday, May 10, 1878. Sixth-Auditor McGrew was before the House Commit tee on Post Offices and Post Roads, to-day, verifying cer-

tain mail contract accounts Lieutenants Safeste and Sabiansk, of the Russian Navy, arrived here yesterday, and are sojourning at the Eussian Legation. They came to this country on the Chabria.

Some inquiries, instituted by the Administration in regard to the preparations of Communists for riotons demonstrations, lead to the belief that the accounts of these preparations have been greatly exaggerated. George S. Sedwick, of counsel for certain New-York Merchants, has, in response to the request of Senator Kernan, furnished him in writing with the grounds of complaint against the action of the Committee on Naval complaint against the action of the Committee on Naval Affairs in closing the testimony in the case of George F. Cutter, nominated by the President for the position of Paymaster-General of the Navy, and also submitting reasons why Cutter should not be confirmed by the Secrets.

NOMINATIONS.

Washington, May 10.-The President sent WASHINGTON, May 10.—The President sent the following nominations to the Senate:

Postmosters.—Frank C. Mesbaugh, at Cambridge, Ind.; Mrs. Elizabeth A. Stevenson, at Greenville, Ohio.

Army Promotions.—Major Thomas J. Thomburg, paymaster, to be major, 4th Infaniry; Major Henry G. Thomas, 4th Intantry, to be major and paymaster: First.Lieutenant Homas Sharp, 1st Infaniry, to be first-lieutenant Jint Infaniry; First.Lieutenant James Stumbert, 17th Infaniry, to be printing the paymaster, 17th Infaniry, to be first-lieutenant James Stumbert, 17th Infaniry, to be first-incutenant James Stumbert, 17th Infaniry, to be first-incutenant.

AMERICA'S INDUSTRIES.

SPEECH BY SENATOR BLAINE. REOPENING OF THE PERMANENT EXHIBITION AT PHILADELPHIA-THE POLICY OF PROTECTION WARMLY ADVOCATED-MAGNITUDE OF OUR IN-TERNAL COMMERCE.

PHILADELPHIA, May 10.—The Permanent Exhibition, which has been closed for some time past to allow of a thorough renovation, was reopened to the public to-day. Many of the old exhibits have been removed and replaced by others, and many valuable additions to the agricultural and educational departments have been made. The platform was arranged for the accommodation of guests and others, as at the former opening, and was handsomely ernamented with bunting and flowers. presented a similar appearance to that of year. The space immediately grand organ was reserved for the chorus, while invited guests filled the floor immediately in front. Several thousand invitation, were issued to prominent citizens of this State and other States. The programme of the exercises was of a very attractive character. Mark Hassler's orchestra of sixty pieces, to-gether with a chorus of between 300 and 400 selected voices, furnished the musical portion of the exercises.

Senators Blaine, Bayard and Wallace arrived at about 2:30 o'clock, and were met and escorted to the platform by the Reception Committee. The eeromonies opened a concert overture, and Händel's chorus, " Lift up Your Heads," after which the President of the Exhibition, Henry D. Moore, made a few introductory marks, in which he took occasion to congratusuccess. Some popular airs were then rendered, when Colonel A. K. McCiure, of The Philadelphia Times, made Colonel A.A. McCaire, and a short address, concluding by introducing Senator Blaine, of Maine, as the orator of the day. Mr. Blaine then delivered a long and carefully prepared address. The following were his concluding remarks:

MR. BLAINE'S DEFENCE OF PROTECTION.

And now, slowly emerging, as we hope we are, from the gloom and depression of these last four years, let us gather knowledge and counsel and wisdom and courage or the future. With the wealth of a continent surround for the future. With the wealth of a continent surrounding us, let us not permit ourselves to doubt or distrust our abundant capacity to provide remunerative internal of the continent of the co ing us, let us not permit ourselves to doubt or Europe combined, with our railways joining lake to guif and ocean to ocean; and then remember and reflect that on all our ocean coast, on all our interior seas, on all our rivers, over all our railroads, between all our States and with all our Territories, trade is absolutely free for all American products and fabries without fetter or daily or charge or fee or any Governmental tax whatever, National, State or municipal; and remember, too, that the great organic law of the land declares it shall always remain so. And I here assert, that enjoying as we have enjoyed, and as I hope we shall enjoy, the full benefit of protection to American industry against injurious competition from abroad, we have also enjoyed and do enjoy among ourselves the blessings of absolute free trade beyond that ever realized in the world elsewhere by so large a population, over so yast an extent of country. The aggregate of our domestic commerce is astounding in its figures. The vast importance of our foreign commerce is now exiting general interest and enlisting the attention of the whole country. It has grown so large that its total for a single year amounts to nearly \$1,200,000,000, and its importance cannot be over-estimated. But compared with our domestic commerce, it is absolutely insignificant in extent. The traffic by railroad alone in this country is estimated to be sixteen times as large as the whole of our foreign commerce, and when you add to that the commerce of lake and river and canal, you have an aggregate of domestic exchanges that amounts to twenty-five times as much as the foreign commerce, including the exports and imports.

And thus it is, Mr. President, that the system of absolute free trade among ourselves and of protection with respect to foreign nations has created and developed those great industries, whose richest and ripest fruits we see around us here to-day, I congratulate you on the auspicious results of your energy and your enterprise, and I predict with confidence that your labors will be amply repaid by

GERRYMANDERING OHIO.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, May 10 .- Democratic members of the House held a caucus to-night and agreed, by a vote of forty-seven to three, to support a bill reported by the select committee to re-district the State for Congressional purposes. This bill is based on the Presidential vote of 1876, and from the Jadiciary Committee, when it shall again be called for reports for action by the House. The committee will ask for authority to

THE ANGLO-RUSSIAN CRISIS.

SCHOUVALOFF'S SCHEME KEPT SECRET. HE RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT UNAWARE OF ITS FULL PURPORT-TODLEBEN DETERMINED TO HOLD ADRIANOPLE IN THE EVENT OF WAR.

It is announced semi-officially at St. Petersburg that the Government is unaware of the full purport of the information Count Schouvaloff is bringing. He has not intrusted the mails or telegraph with it. It follows that the surmises of correspondents are not entitled to much credit. The report comes from Constantinople that General Todleben is determined, in the event of war with England, to fortify Adrianople, and make it his base of operations. In England the Radicals are showing renewed energy. Mr. Chamberlain intends to open a debate in Parliament on Monday by moving a resolution concerning the Government's recent conduct. Mr. Fawcett also purposes to call the Government to account for sending Indian troops to Malta without Parliamentary

COUNT SCHOUVALOFF'S MISSION. THE RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT UNAWARE OF THE PRO POSALS HE BRINGS.

Bether, Friday, May 10, 1878. Court Schouvaloff arrived here to-day from Friedrichsruhe. He visited Count von Bulow, Secretary of State for the Foreign Office, and left for St. Peters-

The Agence Russe (semi-official) says all the newspaper revelations respecting the proposals whereof Count Schouvaloff is the bearer are hypothetical. The Government itself does not know the proposals. If Count Schouvaloif could have telegraphed or otherwise transmitted them this journey would have been needless. This fact, however, does not preclude

TODLEBEN TO HOLD ADRIANOPLE. THE RUSSIAN COMMANDER RESOLVED TO FORTIFY

THAT CITY IN THE EVENT OF WAR-AMNESTY FOR THE GREEK INSURGENTS.

LONDON, Friday, May 10, 1878.

"In case of war," a dispatch to The Daily News says, "General Todleben intends to make Adriano-ple the base of operations and final stand for the army

A RUSSIAN CONSUL SUMMONED HOME. The Temps, of Paris, commenting on an urgent numbers to St. Petersburg of M. Commany, the a political diplomatist before occupying his present post, is regarded as one of those Russians best acquainted with the Eastern Question. He is on excellent terms with Count Senouvaledf, whose views on the present phase of the political situation he approves. We are assured that he was always opposed to those clauses of the San Stefano Treaty which raised the strongest objections, and with Prince Lobanoff, Russian Ambassador at Constantionole, Baron Jomini, and Count Schouvaloff, he will represent at the Russian Court the civilization party in opposition to General Euranteff, who represents the other party, and whose influence seems for some days to have materially diminished."

PRINCE MILAN SHOWING CLEMENCY. In consequence of representations of the foreign diplo-matic agents. Prince Milan refuses to sign the death warrants of the condemned Topola revolutionists. The Ministers decline to accept any resposibility for such re-

AUSTRIA PLAYING DOUBLE.

A special dispatch from Berlin to The Times, says : The semi-official Noradeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung, far rom believing that the 60,000,000 floring about to be raised by Austria will be employed in anti-Russian armanents, is of the opinion that the money will be quietly ments, is of the opinion that the money will be quietly put by to serve as a permanent mobilization fund after the fashion of the famous German war chest. Similar views are very general in Berlin where the anti-Russian articles cropping up in the Austrian inspired press are regarded as so many attempts to aliay Hungarian felling and make Europe believe in an independent policy which has long ceased to exist."

OPPEK PERFORES ALLOWED TO RETURN. The Turkish Minister at Athens has notified to the refngoes from the insurgent provinces that they have full liberty to return to their homes, the Sultan having

A NEW PREFECT APPOINTED. Prince Golitzyae has succeeded General Trepoff as Préfect of the St. Petersburg police.

THE SEPOYS COMING. Nine transports with East India troops on board cutered the Red Sea to-day, on their way to Malta.

THE BRITISH RADICALS ACTIVE MR. CHAMBERLAIN AND MR. FAWCETT HARRASSING THE GOVERNMENT. LONDON, Friday, May 10, 1878.

In the House of Commons, last evening, Mr. Chamberlain (Radical) announced that he would post-pone until Monday his request for a day to discuss his resolution concerning the Government's foreign policy, which is practically a vote of censure on the Govern-

which is practically a vote of censure on the Government's conduct throughout the negotiations since the Treaty of San Stefano was published. The Liberal leaders are not likely to give Mr. Chamberlain any assistance. His resolution will probably be permitted to drop, if any organized attack on the Government is determined upon the movement of Indian troops will probably be chosen as the ground.

Mr. Henry Fawcett (Liberal), member for Hackney, yesterday gave notice that on going into Committee of Supply on the supplementary estimates, be would move that the House disapproves the summoning of the Indian troops to Maita without first communicating that intention to Parliament. The Opposition leaders may adopt Mr. Fawcett's motion or substitute a similar one, but it is not likely that any attack on the Government, either on this point or its general policy, will receive the united Liberal support, and it is quite possible that none will be made except by the Radicals.

THE RUSSIAN MARITIME DESIGNS.

THE BUSSIANS PURCHASING STEAMERS. BALTIMORE, Md., May 10.-It is rumored ere to-night that several of the best steamers of the North-German Lloyds Line, between this city and Bromen, have been sold to the Russian Government.

GREATER ACTIVITY ON THE CIMBRIA. ELLSWORTH, Me., May 10.—Since yesterday there has seen more activity on board the Cimbria. Captain Hunt and the younger Captain Gripenburg, who recently ar-rived from Europe, reached the Cimbria, and after an interview with those on board, started this morning on

THE RUSSIAN VISITORS.

FURTHER DETAILS OF THEIR PLANS HERE. LOOKING FOR CRUISERS-WHAT WILL BE DONE IF WAR IS NOT DECLARED-MORE OF WHAT CAP-

TAIN SEMETSCHKIN SAYS. Captain Semetschkin and Lieutenant Kho tinski, the latter an engineer in the Russian Navy, both of whom arrived, with Lieutenants Radinoff and Kouteinikoff, on the steamship Labrador from Havre on Thursday, left the Everett House early yesterday morning, and went to Washington, leaving their companions in this city.

Lieutenant A. R. Radcliffe, about mid-day, called upon the Russian Vice-Consul, who has charge of the office during Mr. Bodisco's illness. He is about six feet in height, strongly built, of fair com-plexion, with a military carriage and an afiable manner He speaks English well. He does not consider the mis-sion of his brother officers and himself to this country as a matter of secreey, yet he speaks of it with some reserve. He confirms the statement that Russia's purpose is to purchase and fit out vessels here as cruisers to prey upon English commerce in case of war, and that the men on board of the Cimbria are to man these vessels, with the addition of sailors that may be shipped here, as it is only necessary that two-thirds of the erew of each cruiser shall be Russians. He says that the officers who arrived on Thursday have been sent to inspect any vessels that will be suitable for their service, and which may be for sale, and to purchase them, if possible. If any vessels are purchased, they will be placed in charge of officers on beard of the Cimbria, and will be taken out of the jurisdiction of the United States before war is declared, so that they may avoid any violation of the neutrality laws.

be declared to-day Captain Semetschkin can hoist the Russian flag on that vessel immediately, as she is virtually Russian property, and the vessel will immediately get up steam and put to sea.

" If, as is reported," Lieutenant Radionoff said, "there are negotiations pending to settle amicably questions between Russia and England, and a peaceful solution results from them, then the officers now here on special duty, and others who are to arrive to-day on the steamship Neckar, from Bremen, will on the steamship Neckar, from Bremen, will visit the several ship-building establishments in this country, and also the various may yards, to learn all they can as to the improvements in naval architecture, wharves, docks, arms and armament, ammittion and other matters which pertain to the Navy. They also intend to visit the naval torpedo station at Newport, where improvements have been made in torpedoes and explosives during the past eight years. They will also inspect the Lay and Ericeson torpedo boats, to see what advantages, if any, they possess over the Whitehead torpedo boat, which the Russian Government has recently purchased.

CAPTAIN SEMETSCHKIN NOT TO BUY ARMS. In an interview with Captain Semetschkin, a TRIBUNE eporter asked him if he intended to purchase arms in this country. "No." he replied," we take the arms from the Turks. We have captured up to the present time our Berdan rifles answer our purposes very well. A Government factory in Russia turns out about 1,500 of these rifles daily. The Turkish bullets, made in Armenia, we found superior bullets, made in Armenia, we found superior however, to our own, as they pierced the iron sheets that are put up in front of the rifle-pits to protect the riflemen's heads. Our builets, that were made of pure lead, flattened against the sheets. On analyzing the American bullets, we found that they contained a percentage of antimony, which gave the bullets the necessary hardness. We now add some tin to the lead for bullets, and find that it asswers very well.

While it is stated that persons acting for the Russian Government in the purchase of vessels here as cruisers, are in the city, the ship brokers chaim to know nothing of them. F. C. Schmidt, one of the most prominent brokers, says that he believes the reputed Russian agents are only a few speculators, without any actual authority to purchase. Whether or not any negotiations are pending for the purchase of vessels, steamship owners and brokers, one and all, deny their personal interest in them, and add that if they had any interest, their policy would be to keep it secret, and they would not violate that policy.

A CANADIAN STEAMER BURNED.

THE SARDINIAN DESTROYED BY FIRE, SHE TAKES FIRE AT LOUGH FOYLE, ON THE IRISH COAST-LARGE LOSS OF LIFE FEARED.

LONDON, Friday, May 10, 1878. The Allan Line steamship Sardmian, Captain Dutton, from Liverpool May 9, for Quebec, is on fire at the entrance of Lough Foyle, the harbor of Londonderry. It is reported that an explosion of generated gas occurred on board, and that every effort to save the vessel proved meffectual. There were about 460 passengers aboard. A few were injured-one fatally. The captain telegraphed immediately to Londonderry for accommodation for 400 engers, and two tenders were sent to the mouth of the Lough to assist in removing them. The Sardinian had put into the Lough Foyle to receive Irish passengers.

LATER DETAILS OF THE CALAMITY. MOVILLE, Friday, May 10, 1878.

dinian occurred at half-past 3 o'clock this afternoon in the fore-hold. Forty persons were injured and three killed. Some of the injured were dangerously hurt, and taken to the Derry Hospital. Attempts to senttle the ship were at latest reports unsuccessful. Some of the steerage passengers are reported to be cut off from help, but it is believed possible that they will be saved. Four hundred passengers have been taken to London-

MANY PERSONS CUT OFF FROM HELP. LONDONDERRY, Friday Evening.

Many of the injured by the explosion on board the Sardinian are not expected to recover. The vessel is on fire amidships. Half of the watch in the forecastle, and a number of steerage passengers in the fore part of the vessel are cut off

A GREAT NUMBER PROBABLY KILLED. It is believed that more of the passengers of the Sardinian were killed than at first stated. Her passengers were chiefly Germans and Italians, but there were also some English and Scotch emigrants

The Sardinian was a large, first-class iron steamship. It belonged to the Allan line, which carries the mails between Canada and Great Britain. A steamer of this line sails weekly, when navigation is open, from Liverpool for Quebec and Montreal. It leaves Liverpool on Thursday and calls next day at Moville, a small town on the Irish coast, eighteen miles northeast of Londonderry. Here it takes on board passengers, mails and freight, and then sails direct for the St. Lawrence. The steamers, exclusive of the Sardinian, eugaged in this traffic are the Mora-vian, Peruvian, Polynesian, Sarmatian, and Circas-sian. The rates for cabin passengers to Que-bec are \$60, \$75 and \$90. People are car-ried in the intermediate saleons for \$42, and in the steerage for \$31.50. It is probable that most of the passengers on the Sardinian were immigrants. A branch of the Allan Line trades between Liverpool, St. Johns, Newfoundland, Halifax and Baltimore. One of the four steamers on this route sails fortnightly from Liver-pool, calling at Queenstown the following day. s, mails and freight, and then sails direct for

GENERAL FOREIGN NEWS.

THE SILVER COINAGE CONGRESS. GERMANY DECLINES THE AMERICAN INVITATION, LONDON, Saturday, May 11, 1878.

The Post's Berlin dispatch says the German Government has decided to decline the invitation from the United States to attend the International Colnage

THE BRITISH STRIKES.

LONDON, Friday, May 10, 1878. The report is not confirmed that the Blackburn Masters' Association has advised each mill-owner to make his own terms. Boothman's Mill, in that town, opened on the men's terms-that is, 10 per cent reduction, the mill running only four days per week. At tion, the mill running only four days per week. At Macclesfield, the weavers have struck against a 5 per cent reduction. Notices of a ten per cent reduction have been posted in the Bury District. This is the result of the meeting of owners of that district held a few days since, when it was unanimously agreed that a reduction of wages was necessary, but action was postponed until all the masters of that district had been consulted. The men have resolved to strike against the reduction. The spunners at Hindley have received notice of a 5 per cent reduction. At Bolton, where the operatives last October submitted to a 5 per cent reduction after a two months' strike, a further reduction of 5 per cent is imminent. The lock-out at Preston is complete. Five thousand operatives who are willing to work are thereby kept in enforced idleness.

FAILURES IN LIVERPOOL.

LONDON, Friday, May 10, 1878. The Liverpool correspondent of The Times, referring to the failures of W. Winter Raffles, cotton roker; Dunkerley, Carter & Co., provision merchants, broker: Dunkerley, Carter & Co., provision merchants, and William Walker, another provision merchant, whose liabilities are \$80,000, says: "It is feared that those failures are only the fererunners of many more, unless the present trade depression is shortly overcome, of which there is no symptom. Mr. Raffles had "future" contracts for 30,000 bales of cotton. His liabilities are \$15,000 to \$20,000."
Thomas Grundy, builder, of Southport, Liverpool and Wolverhampton, has failed. His liabilities are \$590,000.

PILGRIMAGE WINS ANOTHER RACE. LONDON, Friday, May 10, 1878.

The Newmarket first Spring meeting closed to-day, when the race for the 1,000 guineas stakes, for three-year-old fillies was run. The winner was W. Gerard's chestnut filly, Pilgrimage, which also wen the 2,000 guineas stakes on Wednesday last. Lord Falmouth's bay filly Jannette, came in second, and Count F. de Lagrange's chestuut filly, Clementine, third. The number of starters was small, only nine coming forward to contest the race. Notwithstanding her sharp run on Wednesday, Pilgrimage came on the course in excellent form, and was such a warm favorite in the betting that the only odds that could be had against her were six to five. She won easily by three-quarters of a length, again bringing Lord Lonsdale's colors to the front. guineas stakes on Wednesday last. Lord Falmouth's bay

PAPAL AFFAIRS.

LONDON, Friday, May 10, 1878. A telegram from Rome to The Pall Mall Gazette says: "Although the Pope is suffering from inflammation of the liver, the Cardinals oppose his removal from the Vatican.

The negotiations between the Vatican and Russia have completely failed.

PROVINCETOWN, Mass., May 10 .- Two dories,

## THE NATIONAL PARTY.

ORGANIZING FOR ACTIVE WORK. PLANS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL-A PARTY TO

BE COMPOSED OF WORKINGMEN-SPEECHES AT THE MASS-MEETING IN COOPER INSTITUTE. The National party organized in this city yesterday for campaign work, and held a mass meeting in Cooper Institute last evening. Speeches were made by Dr. E. J. Miller, Alexander Troupe, Solon Chase and others of the Executive Council of the party. No confessedly communistic sentiments were uttered, but a general onslaught was made on the

CAMPAIGN PLANS AND ADDRESSES. SESSION OF THE COUNCIL DURING THE DAY-

SPEECHES IN THE EVENING. At the Grand Central Hotel, the Executive

specie dollar and the bondbolder.

Council of the National party was in session all day yesterday, devising plans for the coming cam-paign. The council consisted of Dr. D. B. Sturgeon, of Obio, chairman; Alexander Troppe, of Connecticut, secretary; Ralph Beaumont, of Elmira; Oscar T. Smith of Indians; Thomas T. Durant, of the District of Columbia, Sel in Chase, of Maine, and F. P. Devrees, of Pennsylvania, The day was consumed in arranging plans for the campaign in all the States. One of the main features de cided upon is to run a separate ticket in each State, and to have no affiliations with any other organization. Each State was to be mapped out and thoroughly canvassed. The party, it was claimed, is made up entirely

of honest workingmen and property owners.

aims of the organization a mass-meeting was called at cooper Insuitate last evening. At 8 o'clock the large hall was about half filled. A noticeable incident was the presence of Inspector Murray and about fifty policemen, who 2 were called for fear of interference from the rival organization which claims the name of the National party. The presence of the police proved a damper on all hostile demonstrations. In the audience were many men who looked as if they would enjoy an outbreak, but they made no sign. On a front seat with his feet planted on the rail that surrounds the platform sat George W. Maddox. Upon the platform were the members of the Executive Council, T. V. Powderly, Mayor of Stranton, and several others. The speakers all denounced communism, advised the workingman to appeal only to his power of the ballot, arraigned the bondholder as a leech on the honest workingman, and condemned in unsparing terms the Resumption Act and other means to bring about specie payments. The spiech which pleased the andience most was made by Solon Chase, an old, bent farmer, from Maine, dressed in homeapun. His talk bratled with sharp points, and he clinched every argument with a telling story.

James Connolly, in stating the objects of the meeting, said: We want it clearly understood that we have no affinations with the Republican party, Tammany or Anti-Tammany. We so it alone: if we poil but 100 votes in this county, they shall be honest votes. [Applause.] We believe enough have gathered here to form the politicans.

Dr. E. J. Miller was elected chairman, and John hall was about half filled. A noticeable incident was

We believe chough have gathered here to form the nucleus of a party which shall one day dictate terms to pollucians.

Dr. E. J. Miller was elected chairman, and John Imaess, secretary. Dr. Miller then read a long address. The business of the country, he said, seems to be struck with bankruptey. When the savings banks began to fail, it was attributed to mismanagement. Now the strongest are failing. Ten months more of specie payments will ensure the failure of even the National banks. Those who preduced strikes, riots, and a life and death straigle between capital and labor were accused of visionary prophecies. Yet these results are as certain as the work of the astronomer who predicts an eclipse. The resumptionists claim that these ovils are due to paper money. The National party claim that they are due to the destruction of paper money and that the only way to regain property is to relessing money thus forced from the people. Applause. The tight is not now between paper money and banknotes—the banker's money.

Secretary Sherman recently made a visit here, and negotisted for the sale of \$50,000,000. ditcen-years bonds. With interest this will amount to \$80,000,000. And aii this was done to bring about reasumption. Many of the bonds go to foreigners, and the interest will be drawn out of the country. William M. Tweed stole \$6,000,000,000, and was left to die in Ludlow Street Jail. Joan Sherman has robbed the people of \$24,000,000, and intends to rob them of \$130,000,000, more and yet he is excolled as one of the ablest financiers of the age. They call us "rag money lunatics," while intends to rob them of \$130,000,000, more and yet he is excolled to effect. But I see a party coming into power which is deather to change the policy that is plunging this country into ruis.

Address of Alexander Troupe, of New-Haven, Conn., said, in

ADDRESS OF ALEXANDER TROUPE. Alexander Troupe, of New-Haven, Conn., said, part: The National party declares that Government has no right to delegate its power to any corporations—National banks or others. I call upon the laboring men here to organiz a party which shall be pure in principle and redeem the City of New-York. The votes poiled in the Western part of this State in the Spring elections are an earnest of what is to come. New-York may dissarree, politicians may coursel, but I trust the workingmen may give them the go-by. If they don't the country voters will see that it is done. The party will have power enough to teil Mr. Don Cameron to take a back seat in Pennsylvania. I have been told that at Washington Roseoe considing has been told to pack his carpet-bag. We propose to take his political scalp.

You had a fine spectacle here a few hights ago where men tried to steal the name of this party to serve the devil in. Those men have nothing to do with this party—they are merely political strikers. The workingmen here have seven votes out of ten, and at the ballot-box they can settle the thing for themselves. The quintessence of all that is bad is boiled down and called the Commune. They say the Communists are arming—if this is so they must be Democrats or Republicans, as in St. Louis and Chicago Mr. Cooper had tew and scattering votes. Let the other two parties look after the Communists there. Let John Kely look after those in this city. [Hisses,] We never mean to appeal to arms; we shall appeal only to the ballot-box. Workingmen of New-York, allow yourselves, under no emisderation, to be drawn into a row or a brawl. [Ap] plause.] Be law-abiding citizens, but see that you have an honest count of votes here. We must pre cave the purity of the ballot-box. In New-York, it has come to this, that the men are not ciected who get the biggest vote, but those who have the biggest count.

You may be su-spicious of many men in this party, but there is no man that does not trust Peter Cooper, and he has indoresed this party and has been its cominidate. Why he is to-day more hearty and date part: The National party declares that Government has no right to delegate its power to any corporations

SPEECH OF SOLON CHASE. Solon Chase, of Maine, said: "I come from the Pine tree State, and I can tell you the 'rag baby' is stirring down there. You are robbed by shrinking values. Take a few plain facts. I bought a pair of steers two years ago, and paid \$100 for them. Now they are twice as big, but I can only sell taem for \$50. The man who has boarded that \$100 has taken the growth of those steers. I Great laughter, Here is another story, with a point: My neighber bought a farm for \$3,000, two years ago. A few days ago, the man who sold it bought it in for \$2,000, raking in a clear thousand and two years' work of this man. [Laughter.] Who has got hurt there! Congress has robbed the country by shrinking values. What we propose to do is to bring into use the wealth-producing power of the country. Sherman has seventy millions hoarded. He is bringing about falling prices in England, the very place where the majority of our bonds are held. England is in the same condition as this country—shrinking vomme of production and falling prices. This resumption is a great piece of sophistry."

OTHER EXPRESSIONS OF OPINION. tree State, and I can tell you the 'rag baby' is stirring

OTHER EXPRESSIONS OF OPINION. Dr. John Sturgeon, of Toledo, Ohio, dwelt upon the growth of the National party in the West, and made an arnest appeal for the building up of the party in this

The secretary then read the platform of the National

party adopted at Toledo, with this addition:

We favor the establishment of Government Postal Savings Banks where the earnings of the people can be deposited with safety, in exchange for Fostal Savings Bank Certificates to exchange for Fostal Savings Bank Certificates to the used by the Government in cancelling its bonds bearing the highest rate of interest, or for promoting public improvements—thus keeping in the country the interest now paid to foreign capitalists or money borrowed for these purposes.

Ralph Beaumont delivered a long speech. He said, among other things, "What is this cry about the Communet Not an editor of a New York paper can tell what Communism is, [A voice, "They'll soon find out what it is,"] The country people are made to believe that the city workingman whenever he is dissatisfied dashes through the streets with a toren in his hand. This is aid a lie." The speaker then indulged in a culogium of the greenback and a denunciation of usury.

Solon Chase was again called to the platform, and made a short address.

The meeting then adjourned. party adopted at Toledo, with this addition:

THOMAS J. CREAMER'S FOLLOWERS. Those members of the National party who either could not or would not affiliate with other mem; bers of the organization which met last Wednesday night

at Cooper Union, assembled last evening, lifty strong, in one of the small rooms in Beethoven Hall, in Thirteenth-sic, near Fourth-ave. Thomas J. Creamer was chosen permanent executive of the reorganized General Committee. Mr. Casey, who was one of several persons appointed to draft a constitution and by-laws, had forgotten the document. Another committee was therefore directed to do that work, and a committee of seven was named for the organization of the districts that had been unsettled by the recent disturbance at Cooper Union. A committee was appointed to call on General Benjamin F. Butler and invite him to address the party.

The chalrman made two or three speeches, in the course of which he said: "The members of the National party are opposed to anything like Communism. They believe in ballots, not bullets. They are opposed to all corporations, and want to reafore the country to the condition it enjoyed before the war. It is outrageous to send so much gold acrose the water to pay interest on bonds; for all the good that money does this country is might be thrown into the Atlantic ocean."